

**Freida Bowden**

LAYTON—Freida Bowden, 43, passed away Monday, Nov. 6, 1964, in Bountiful.

She was born May 29, 1922, in Allerton, Utah, a

daughter of Olof

Hus Lekoy and

Artemisia Foulie

Bowden. She

was reared in Al-

lton, moving in

to Roosevelt in

1945. Graduat-

ed from Allerto-

n High School in

Baillard, Utah.

She was a member of the LDS

Church. She received her temple

endowments Oct. 8, 1958, in the

Provo LDS Temple. She enjoyed

reading and painting.

Mrs. Bowden is

survived by four

sisters, Mrs. Mrs.

Nolen (Mrs. George) B. Mor-

rist, Mrs. Mrs. Carol B.

Clark, Mrs. Mrs. Don

Strader, Cedar City, Mrs. Cen-

ton Joy Nellie B. Jacobson, Lon-

ton. She was preceded in death

by one brother and one sister

Groveside services will be held

Saturday at noon at the Allerton

Union Cemetery. Friends may call

Friday from 6-8 p.m. at Undquist's

Lawn Mortuary, 4074

Fairfield

Road.

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Richard (Dick) Birmingham  
Clara Murdock & daug.  
James Stacey Murdock & ( )

Derre!!

## Lissi Leis Carter

MOUNTAIN HOME, Duchesne County —

Lissi Leis Carter, 52, died Sunday, Aug. 23,

1987 in a Salt Lake City hospital.

She was born Nov. 13, 1934 in Copenhagen,

Denmark to Carlos and Ingrid Mueller Leis.

She married Kenneth E. Carter Feb. 5, 1955

in Provo. The marriage was later solemnized

in the Salt Lake Temple of The Church of

Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

She enjoyed doing art work and landscape

gardening.

Survivors include her husband of Mountain

Home; two sons, two daughters; Julie Ma-

thews Proulx, Salt Lake City; Jan Thacker,

Uhalco; Casey Carter, Leland Carter and

Shawn Carter; all Mountain Home; 10 grand-

children; her mother of Orem; one brother,

one sister; Carly Leis, Ely, Nev.; Jytte

Voeller, Orem. She was preceded in death by

a twin sister and one grandchild.

Services will be Thursday, noon, Moon

Lake Ward Chapel. Friends may call at

Olpin-Hullinger Mortuary, Wednesday, 7-9

p.m. or Thursday at the church one hour

prior to services.

Burial Mt. Horne-Boneta Cemetery.

Howard M. Cowan

**Howard M. Cowan**  
DUCHESNE.—Howard Michael Cowan, 77, beloved husband to the now deceased, passed away in a Salt Lake City hospital, October 17, 1980, following complications caused by a stroke. Born May 10, 1912, in DuBois, Pa., to Joseph B. and Elizabeth (Lae Harper) Cowan. Married June 1, 1938, in the Salt Lake City LDS Temple. Member of the LDS Church. Served in the State Builders Quorum Presidency and home teacher. He owned and operated a cattle ranch and farm in Duchesne throughout his life. He served as President and Director of the Rock Point Dutch Zoning Club. He was a member of the Duchesne County Planning and Zoning Club. He was a Director of the Duchesne Commercial Club. He is survived by his wife, Janet, Duchesne; sons and daughters, Burton and Nancy Cowan, Salt Lake City; Barbara and Richard Owen, American Fork; Carol Cowan, Vernal; Scott and Ellen Cowan, Corra, Colorado; and Mitch, son by first wife, of Carol Cowan; 12 grandchildren; brothers, Robert and Ruth Cowan, Bothell, Wash.; Carl, Clinton, Old Vt.; and Howard, Edmond, Washington. Predeceased in death by a son, Helen Lee Cowan and a brother, DuChesne Cemetery. Funeral directions: Ophir-Hullinger Mortuary, Rockwell. 11/10/20

## Rose Zina Bowen Gardner

NEOLA—Our cherished mother, grandmother and dear friend Rose Bowen Gardner, 95, of Neola passed away quietly February 22, 1992 in the Duchesne County Hospital in Roosevelt.

She was born March 12, 1896 in Provo, Utah to Mervin and Francis Nelson Bowen. She married Lester Gardner July 4, 1913 in Provo; later solemnized in the Mani LDS Temple. He died March 27, 1968. She was a friend to everyone she met and was loved by all who knew her. She will be remembered always for her spunky wit, keen sense of humor and love of life and family.

She is survived by children, LaMar Gardner, Roy and Toni Gardner, Lynn and Coleen Gardner, all Neola; Darol and Naomi Gardner, Springville; Thelma Orr, Chino, Calif.; and Virginia Labrum, Canoga Park, Calif.; 16 grandchildren; 65 great-grandchildren; one great great-grandchild.

Funeral services will be held 11 a.m. Thursday, February 27, 1992 in the Neola LDS 2nd Ward Chapel. Friends may call at the Olpin-Hullinger Mortuary in Roosevelt Wednesday 7-9 p.m. and at the church Thursday, 9:45-10:45 a.m. Interment, Neola Cemetery.

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CHESTER H. HARTMAN is one of the progressive representatives of modern ranch industry in Duchesne County, where he specializes in the breeding and raising of pure-blood Cotswold sheep, and where he maintains his residence in the village of Mount Emmons.

Mr. Hartman was born in Polk County, Nebraska, August 14, 1884, and is a son of Edwin B. and Susan (Shank) Hartman, the latter of whom died at the old home in Nebraska a number of years ago and the former of whom is now a revered member of the family circle of his son Chester H., of this review.

Chester H. Hartman received his early education in Nebraska and at Florence, Colorado, and he has been closely associated with agricultural and live stock enterprise during the major part of the time since his boyhood. He arrived in Utah August 16, 1905, and for some time thereafter he was here in the employ of the United States Government, besides having been identified with mining operations at Park City. Since the spring of 1908, and almost immediately after his marriage, he has given his active supervision to his present well improved ranch near Mount Emmons, he having taken this tract as a homestead and having made on the place the best of improvements. The fine brick house that he erected as the family home at Mount Emmons is now made the more attractive by well kept lawns and a number of ornamental trees, as well as shrubbery. Mr. Hartman has been loyal and progressive not only in his private enterprise but also as a citizen, and he served seven years as a member of the board of directors of the local irrigation company and did three years of effective service in connection with the activities of the Farm Bureau of Duchesne County.

In March, 1908, Mr. Hartman was united in marriage to Miss Rhoda Marsing, and the children of this union are four in number: Floyd C., Edwin Max, Julius Bruce and Eugene William.

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## Ferris McAfee

Ferris McAfee, 79, died April 11, 1992

in American Fork, April 11, 1992

He was born Dec. 15, 1912 in Rock

Creek, Utah, a son of

John Sharp and

Clara McDonald Mc-

Afee. He married

Erna Vera Provest,

Sept. 30, 1935 in Mid-

way. Their marriage

was later solemnized

in the Salt Lake LDS

Temple.

He worked as a

miner and helped in

the construction of

Geneva Steel and

worked there for 35

years. He was an active member of The

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day



Saints, having served as ward clerk for three bishops, scoultmaster, and in many other callings. He and his wife served missions in the Samoa, Phillipine-Ba-

guio, and San Diego Missions. He was a

Provo Temple worker.

He loved woodworking, camping, gar- dening and traveling. He is survived by his wife of American Fork; five children, Mrs. Warren (Peggy Ann) Elliott, West Jordan; Gary D. McAfee, Orange, Calif.; Dennis J. McAfee, Midvale; Ronald R. McAfee, Fort Orchard, Wash.; Mrs. Edward (Sandra) Nixon, Morrison, Colo.; 20

grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren;

brothers, Elgin McAfee and Bernell Mc-

Afee. He was preceded in death by a

brother, Ted, two sisters, Laura and

Dorothy; a granddaughter and great-

granddaughter.

Funeral services will be Thursday, 11 a.m. at the American Fork 22nd Ward LDS Chapel, 680 E. 300 N.

Friends may call at the Anderson & Sons Mortuary, 49 E. 100 N., Wednesday, 6 to 8 p.m. and Thursday at the church one hour prior to services.

Burial in the Midway City Cemetery.

## Ferris McAfee

AMERICAN FORK—Ferris McAfee, 79, died April 11, 1992 in American Fork.

Born December 15, 1912 in Rock Creek, Wasatch Co., Utah, to John Sharp and Clara McDonald McAfee. He married Erna Vera Provest September 30, 1935 in Midway, Utah. Marriage later solemnized in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. He worked as a miner. Helped in the construction of Geneva Steel and worked there for 35 years. Active member of the LDS Church, served as Ward Clerk for three bishops, scoultmaster for over 20 years and in many other callings. He and his wife served missions in Samoa, Phillipine-Ba-

guio, and San Diego Missions. He was a Provo

temple worker. He loved woodworking, camp-

ing, gardening and traveling.

He is survived by his wife of American Fork; five

children, Mrs. Warren (Peggy Ann) Elliott, West

Jordan; Gary D. Orange, California; Dennis J.

McAfee; Ronald R. Fort Orchard, Washington;

Mrs. Edward (Sandra) Nixon, Morrison, Colorado; 20 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren;

brothers, Elgin and Bernell. Preceded in death by a brother Ted, two sisters, Laura and Dorothy, a granddaughter and great granddaughter.

Funeral services will be Thursday, 11 a.m. in the American Fork 22nd Ward, 680 E. 300 N.

Friends may call at the Anderson & Sons

Mortuary, 49 E. 100 N., Wednesday 6 to 8 p.m. and Thursday at the church one hour prior to services.

Burial in the Midway City Cemetery.



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**MATTHEW, ELIJAH** (son of Elisha Mayhew and Abigail Tribbets), Born April 15, 1807, at Levant, Penobscot, Me. Came to Utah Sept. 9, 1853, Daniel Miller company. Married Lydia Parnsworth Oct. 2, 1832, Shellyville, Ind. Married Lydia Parnsworth Oct. 2, 1832, Shellyville, Ind. Came to Utah Sept. 9, 1853. Their children: Mary, m. Persimond Nason; Lydia, m. Fred Meachum; Elizabeth, m. James Astle; Charlotte; Grove.

Married Ann Rogers April 18, 1868, Salt Lake City. She was born Aug. 3, 1832. Their children: Lydia Ann, m. Samuel Kirk; Eliza; Trianna, m. Miss Harber. Families resided in Pleasant Grove, Utah. Pleasant Grove: tithing-clerk; ward clerk at Pleasant Grove, High priest; tithing-clerk; ward clerk at Pleasant Grove, Pleasant Grove. Railroad man. Died Jan. 17, 1896.

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**MATTHEW, OTTO LYMAN** (son of Eliza Mayhew and Lydia Farnsworth), Born Oct. 2, 1836, Edinburgh, Ind. Came to Utah Sept. 9, 1853. Missionary to Alabama 1851-82; high priest. City recorder, Pleasant Grove. Farmer.

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## INVENT MEN OF UTAH 1029

**MATTHEW, AUSTIN SHIP** (son of Elijah Mayhew and Lydia Farnsworth). Born at Indianapolis, Ind. Came to Utah with oxteam company.

Married Martha Jane Walker at Salt Lake City (daughter of Hansen Walker and Sophia Clark of Pleasant Grove, Utah, pioneers 1847). She was born May 18, 1853. Their children: Austin Jr.; Elijah Walker b. July 11, 1871, m. Rosetta White; Martha Medora, m. Benjamin Gibbons; Martha, m. Rufus Shoddard; Cordelia, m. Hyrum Knight; Ernest, d. infant; Caroline, m. Myron Lance; Walter Franklin, m. Nelle May Abbott; Robert Jay; Lydia, m. Joseph Pedersen; Otto Benjamin; Shelby. Family home Giles, Utah.

Elder; ward teacher; Sunday school teacher. Assisted in bringing immigrants to Utah. Veteran Indian wars. Farmer; stockraiser; mechanic. Died May 22, 1910, at Giles, Utah.

**MATTHEW, ELIJAH W.** (son of Austin Ship Mayhew and Martha Jane Walker). Born July 15, 1871, Pleasant Grove, Utah. Married Rosetta White May 22, 1896, at Giles, Utah (daughter of John C. White and Mary Ann Jarman, of Nephi and Orderville, Utah, pioneers Sept. 29, 1856; Hyrum Clawson company). She was born Aug. 7, 1872. Their children: Virginia Elijah b. March 13, 1897; Melvin Jay b. Nov. 25, 1899; Burney b. Aug. 25, 1903; Edna b. Feb. 19, 1909; Rosey May b. April 17, 1910; Little White b. Nov. 6, 1911. High priest; ward teacher; Sunday school superintendent; president Y. M. M. A.; counselor to Bishop White. Postmaster at Giles, Utah. Now lives at Duchesne, Uinta county. Farmer and stockraiser.

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Born April 15, 1807, Levant, Penobscot Co., Maine. Came to Utah Sept. 9, 1853, Daniel Miller company. County Commissioner, Utah. High priest.

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## Ross P. Monsen

BLUEBELL—Duchesne, County, Ross P. Monsen, age 75, died March 4, 1992.

Born December 12, 1916 to James Orson and Sarah Ann Fieldsted Monsen at Duchesne. Married Velma Winkler May 6, 1937 in the Salt Lake LDS Temple.

Survived by wife, Bluebell; daughter, sons and spouses, LaRae and Hal McDonald, Keads; Paul and Jeanne, Altamont; Eldon and Carole, Duchesne; Mark and Lorie, Bluebell; two brothers, Grant, Bonnefa; and Frank Bakersfield, Calif.; sisters, Ruth Thacker, Altamont; Evelyn Rowley, Lehi; 17 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services 1 p.m., Saturday, at the Altamont LDS Church, where friends may call Friday, from 7-9 p.m. and Saturday, 11:30-12:30. Burial, Bluebell Cemetery under direction of Olpin-Hullinger Mortuary, Roosevelt.



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Next was Peter Shirts with a mill on Snake Creek, followed by the Lake Creek Mills of Nicol and Alexander, the Carroll mill in Heber, and the Watkins mill on Deer Creek. Other mills were built by Forman on Deer Creek, Henry Coleman on the lower Snake Creek, and McGurie, Turner and Campbell mills on the South Fork of Provo River.

The mills were first run with water power from the creeks but later steam was introduced. Logging was done with oxen, and it would be difficult to overestimate the importance of these animals in the pioneering venture. They were particularly valuable in lumbering. Here they were preferred even over horses. They were steady and not easily excited. Where horses, when pulling a heavy load would saw back and forth or would balk, the oxen would steady down and pull harder and harder. Oxen could get over the logs easier and could go

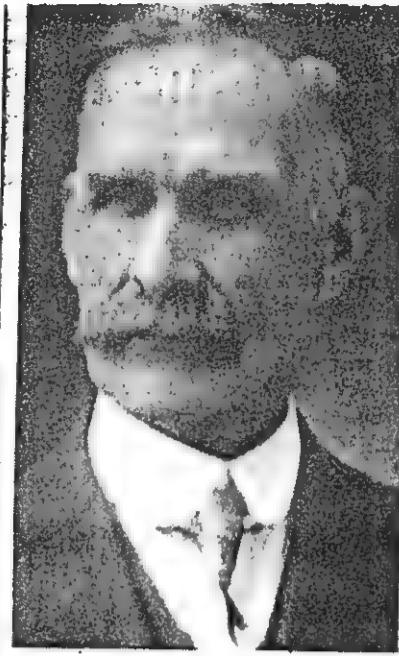
"...of Wasatch County," op. cit., p. 7.

"...of June 6, 1858, p. 2.

...ing out lumber in the fall of 1860.

...e pioneer saw mill in the Provo Valley, Canyon and got out timber for a saw and James Adams with companions went to spring forth all over the valley

which were heavily logged as the region...  
...pen and scattered stands of white and...  
...fir and Engelmann spruce there were...  
...saw timber. In addition to the main...  
...In this region were millions of board...  
...anyon road was to make this timber...  
...gham Young's chief purposes in build-...  
...industry



AM (Al) Murdock

Winged  
M. Murdock  
Dad

## Murdock honored in Duchesne Footprints Celebration, July 4

Alva Moroni Murdock, or Al, is called the father of Duchesne. He will be honored at the Footprints Through Duchesne celebration on July 4.

Murdock was apparently the first white person to make the Basin his home and to make any sort of permanent and constructive use of its lands and resources.

Murdock was born April 26, 1857 in Carson Valley, Nevada. Later, Murdock's father moved to the Heber Valley, where he was the first bishop and the first representative to the State Legislature from Wasatch County. He then moved to the Muddy Mission in Southern Nevada, but Murdock returned to Park City as a youth, and later the Heber area.

The pioneer had an interest in livestock, and began running a co-op herd of cattle belonging to Heber ranchers. They grazed in the Strawberry Valley, where the reservoir is now located. Because of the short season there, Murdock, and his partner, Jim Clyde, decided to investigate the Uintah Basin.

They leased the entire Basin for \$1,000 a year, according to a history of Murdock, getting the lease from the Indian agent, who stipulated that they confine their herd to cattle, barring horses and sheep.

Murdock kept his family in Heber, but continued to range cattle in the Uintah Basin for the next few years. He also ventured out into freighting. He supplied the army troops stationed at Ft Duchesne with goods brought from Park City. He often carried

Gilsonite on his return trips. He expanded his deliveries to the Indian agencies at Ouray and Whiterocks, and to the growing Mormon settlement in Ashley Valley which would become Vernal.

In 1885 Murdock decided to establish a trading post at Whiterocks, and moved his family out there. He got along well with the Indians. His father had taught him to feed rather than fight them. In fact, it is said it was never proven that he lost livestock to Indians. Another story tells that the Indian police refused to carry out the orders of the Indian supervisor when he wanted Murdock removed from the reservation.

After three years, the Murdocks returned to Heber, moving back to the Basin just before the opening to homesteaders in 1905.

On the day before the opening, Murdock was permitted to enter the Basin and establish a store to supply the settlers coming in. He brought in two wagons and a circus tent, which he set up next to an Indian cabin he had purchased. The store was in Duchesne. He kept his merchandise in the cabin, and used the tent for a store, boarding house and community center.

The second night of the opening, a bonfire was built near the tent. The crowd gathered, and voted to name the town Dora, for Murdock's daughter, the only woman on the townsite. Murdock said his daughter was his right-hand man, "She freighted with me before the opening, helped me

establish my business at the opening, and in many ways did all any man could do until her younger brother grew big enough to take her place."

Murdock moved his family to Duchesne the following spring. He later acquired the land that included homestead number 1, which originally belonged to Roy Daniels.

Besides being the first settler in the Basin, Murdock brought the first woman to the Basin, gave the town its first name, brought in the first mail, became the first postmaster, became the first LDS bishop, and the first mayor. The first school was held on his property. He ran the first store and operated the first stage. He was even the first vice president of the first bank in Duchesne.

When Murdock organized the first stage and mail route, he charged two cents per pound for parcel post from Helper to Duchesne. He later went back into the cattle business, eventually owning the canyons on the Strawberry River he had previously pastured cattle in.

His store, the Pioneer Supply Store became a community gathering place. Casters were placed under the counters so they could be rolled back to make room for dancing and other social events.

A story is told of the first winter after the homesteaders arrived. The settlers had not been in the Basin long enough to plant crops. Freighting was difficult when the first rains came and turned the roads into impassable mud bogs. When he was unable to get supplies, it is said Murdock mounted his horse, visited every ranch in the area, and begged or borrowed whatever flour or other supplies could be spared. These he distributed to families that were out of food. Thus he was able to help the settlers survive until supplies finally arrived.

It is also told that he offered credit to the settlers. Many of those bills were repaid gratefully, but many were never paid.

Uintah Basin Standard

"Basin Life"

June 26, 1991 Page 9



was an invalid. The loving care James conferred on her and the children lives in the memory of his family and friends. She passed away on October 29, 1907.

On February 27, 1913, James married Violet McNiven, daughter of James and Lydia McNiven. She died May 25, 1933.

James was a big, genial man, a good friend and neighbor, always ready to contribute time and money to any worthy cause.

He passed away in Salt Lake City, January 12, 1936, and was buried in the family plot in Heber City Cemetery.

### ALVA M. MURDOCK



Alva Moroni Murdock was born April 26, 1857, in Carson Valley, Nevada. His parents, Joseph Stacy Murdock and Elizabeth Hunter Murdock, had been sent to Carson Valley on a colonizing mission by Brigham Young in 1856.

In 1857, when the crops were ready to harvest, they were called back to Salt Lake by Brigham Young because of the invasion of Johnston's army, and were told to bring ammunition from California.

Alva's father had to sell his ranch and crops as they stood, ready to harvest, to some Texans on their way to the California goldfields for horses and wagons to make the return journey to Utah.

Ten years of hard pioneering followed for the Murdock family, first in American Fork and later in Heber City, where Alva's father, Joseph Stacy Murdock, was the first bishop and also first representative to the State Legislature from Wasatch County. There always was progress, though. A stone home was built in Heber; children were sent to school, and life became somewhat easier.

However, Joseph Murdock's organizational ability was too valuable to the Church to allow him to enjoy the comparative ease and security of the then well-established Heber City, and once more came the call to assist in colonizing, this time in southern Nevada in what is known as the Muddy Mission. So, in 1867, the Murdock family moved to the south, settling near the town of Moapa on the Muddy River.

The settlers had paid their taxes to Utah and to Arizona, only to find they were in Nevada, where more taxes were demanded. So, after a visit from Brigham Young, whom Alva says he remembers clearly, the project was abandoned for the time being and homes, orchards and 1,000 bushels of wheat were left behind.

The Murdock children were very happy to leave and when the father looked back as they came to a rise in the ground, he could see smoke rising. When asked about it, Alva admitted he had lighted the match, so they could not decide to turn back.

It was the trip to and from the Muddy Mission and the life there that is given credit for one of the outstanding habits of Alva's life. Because of the heat and mosquitoes, most of the travel was accomplished at night. Alva drove a yoke of oxen almost the entire way, although he was just a mere lad.

In 1870, when they reached Provo, the father, knowing that there were many mouths to feed, succeeded in securing the first government contract for carrying mail from Provo, by way of Heber and Kamas to Echo. Here the boys were put to work in relays with horses.

Interest in livestock became the deciding factor in Alva's destiny and was responsible for his entry into the Uintah Basin. He and Jim Clyde undertook to ride herd on a thousand head of cattle belonging to Heber residents, grazing them in the broad expanse of Strawberry Valley, now under the waters of Strawberry Reservoir. This herd was known as the Co-op herd and gave the name to Co-op Creek, which was a favorite camping spot for the herders.

In about 1875, when the feed in Strawberry Valley seemed inadequate for the cattle, the ranchers wanted them to graze. Alva and Jim Clyde decided to investigate

### HEBER BIOGRAPHIES

the basin, where the season was a little longer, and they rode along the Strawberry River and in Sam's and Slabb Canyons.

Feed in these canyons was then luxuriant, according to Alva, and the men thought that if they just owned these two canyons they would have everything any cattleman might desire. Here was born an ambition which years later was realized. Not content even with this, the two young men went on down into the basin, prospecting the entire region, much of which was held as an Indian reservation.

The final result was the leasing of the entire basin by Alva, Jim Clyde and a third man, Charles Carter, for \$1,000 a year, from the Indian agent, with the stipulation that they confine their herd to cattle, barring horses and sheep which might get mixed with stock belonging to the Indians. The following year their herd increased to 3,000 head of cattle.

When he was just a little over 20, Alva married Josephine Nicol, born January 25, 1859, in Salt Lake City, Utah, daughter of Thomas and Johanna Handberg Nicol.

Alva and his wife were married in Salt Lake City on June 24, 1877, but made their home in Heber, and he recalls he was denied much of the pleasure of the usual young groom starting his home. Just three weeks after his marriage he suddenly was faced with the situation of a man whom he had hired to take care of his cattle in the basin, demanding more money, and rather than pay the increase, Alva took over the horse, saddle and provisions he had provided for the herder and went to the basin himself. Since there was no one to relieve him, he stayed there with the cattle, eventually finding himself snowed in. It was nine months before he was able to return the next spring to his bride.

Time for the next years was divided between the basin and Heber, though Alva kept his family in Heber some time. At Heber his energy took him to such occupations as timbering and saw milling.

In the meantime, Alva was becoming a man of importance in Heber, where he was constantly interested in civic improvement. Among other responsible positions there was that of early school trustee, and his interest in education never diminished. Ven-

tures there included a livery stable business and a stage line to Park City. And when the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad built a branch line into Heber in 1899, it broadened the market for livestock and he took a great many selling trips East, besides supplying Park City markets with beef.

His family, too, was increasing. His first daughter, Hannah Elizabeth, was born October 30, 1878, and died a year later. Ida Josephine, now Mrs. Oscar A. Kirkham, was born July 10, 1880, followed by two other daughters, Dora and Vern.

It was in 1885, when Vern was still a little girl, that Alva decided to establish a trading post at Whiterocks and took his wife and three daughters there to live. While he operated the trading post, his wife ran a boarding house for officials of the government agency. This took much of Mrs. Murdock's time and sometimes for the entire day little Vern would be taken over by the Indians.

The keen understanding of the Indians by Joseph Stacy Murdock—his father—seemed to have been passed on to the son Alva, for he stood in good stead both in his trading with the Indians and in his many associations with them. The Indians learned to consider him a friend and adviser, and held him in so much respect that in all the years he has run cattle in the basin it has never been proven that any Indian ever killed or stole a Murdock animal. He spoke and understood their language and they regarded each other as friends.

Then came the move to the basin to establish his permanent home when it was thrown open to homesteaders in 1905. By this time he was well known and established, both in Heber and in the basin, among whites and Indians alike. He was a man of resources and accomplishments, able to see and grasp opportunities and with the resourcefulness to carry through his projects.

On the day before opening, Alva, by special permit, was allowed to come in to establish a store and other accommodations to provide for the expected settlers. He brought in two wagons and a big circus tent, which he set up beside an old cabin which he bought from an Indian, Segusie Jack. In the cabin he kept his merchandise

## HOW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS

while the tent became a store, boarding house and community center for homesteaders who flocked in to select their lands. Later a huge bonfire was built near the tent, around which were gathered 52 men, and Dora, his daughter, the only woman on the town-site. Grant was the only boy on the campsite. In honor of the occasion the crowd voted to call the settlement Dora, the name it carried for some time or until the post office was established under the name Theodore.

Owning the home ranch had been a dream of the family for years, and when it was finally secured on the Strawberry River, Alva and Josephine made a trip to Salt Lake and had planned a trip to the coast to improve her health. This was not to be, however, and in three weeks she was dead. Her passing occurred February 3, 1913, at the home of her son-in-law, Oscar A. Kirkham.

Alva then put all his energy into building up the ranch to make it a real home for his children and their friends. He had three summer homes built for Ida, Dora and Vern and their families, and a place of fun and entertainment in the large ranch house for his younger family, along with the work that necessarily had to be done.

After World War I, a financial crash came to Alva, as it did to many others, and he also realized that a home was not a home without a mother. So, in October, 1915, he married Ivy Stephens Lidell, and on April 7, 1919, his son, Willard S., was born.

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## ANDREW H. MURDOCK

Andrew H. Murdock was born November 14, 1881, at Heber, son of Joseph Stacy and Elizabeth Hunter Murdock, and was the youngest of 32 children of his father. He married Amanda Jane Horner on December 31, 1902. She died January 11, 1954. Andrew was educated in the Heber schools and was active in the sheep industry from 1909 to 1925. He purchased the Ideal Theatre in 1925, operating it until his death. At the time of his death he was survived by two sons and a daughter, Ellis and Ben Murdock and Mrs. Rhea Holm.

## DAVID N. MURDOCK



David N. Murdock, eldest son of Joseph Stacy Murdock and Jane Sharp, was born April 23, 1855, at "Church Pastures," Salt Lake City, Utah. He rode horses early in life, herding cows in the foothills, always on the lookout for Indians, so he could ride fast and warn the settlers. While in Fillmore, when around 12 years of age, he was asked to take the place of a sick Pony Express rider. He rode for three months, receiving full federal pay, and bought his first pair of spurs.

## HEBER BIOGRAPHIES

"D. N." was healthy, strong, and a hard worker. His father was the first bishop in the valley. He was called away from home much of the time to assist the saints to get settled, so young David had big responsibilities in early life helping with the family. He earned money and materials working in the timber, logging, road building, and freighting. By exchanging work with other men, he managed to get a two-room house built for his mother, which is still in good condition and is occupied. With authority from President Abram Hatch, he supervised the building of the first fence around our Heber Cemetery. He loved nature. The hills, valleys, mountains, rivers and forests were his education. He had little schooling. He always liked, and owned, good horses and traveled many, many miles on horseback. He knew oxen from "A to Z."

On January 14, 1878, he married Margaret Todd. He built a good two-room frame house with red sandstone walls all around, quarried with oxen from nearby hills. He was proud to bring his bride of a year to their own home, all paid for. Together they enjoyed relatives and friends. Many times strangers, Indians, and even tramps, ate at their table. All were made welcome. He was a good provider, always ready and willing to help anyone in need. Five sons and six daughters were reared here.

He was interested in ranching, range land, cattle, horses, but he never owned sheep. He had wagons, buggies, a bicycle, only one car, and he never cared to travel in an airplane. In later years he enjoyed seeing the big tractors, trucks, steam shovels, plow scrapers, and all the modern-day road work equipment. He also was vitally interested in the big reservoirs and waterways, thinking how much easier it was to build good roads and reservoirs than in his hard-working days with horses, plows, scrapers, wagons and a road crew.

He built the biggest barn in Wasatch County, and got out all the timber with oxen and horses during the winter months. All the logs were hand-hewn. He was an expert with ax, saw and hammer. He loved to work, and enjoyed good health all his days. He also had a healthy family. He enjoyed dancing, and gave several big public dancing parties on his birthdays, hiring

two orchestras to accommodate both old and young.

He spent his eighty-fifth birthday in Los Angeles with his sons. When they asked him what he wanted for a present he said, "A new bicycle." Not many boys his age would want such a gift, but he did, and he rode it to his last days.

Early in December he had a pain. Doctors called it appendicitis and advised an operation. He got along nicely and returned home. However, within a few days complications set in. He was returned to the hospital, where he passed away on December 13, 1951, realizing one of his greatest desires—"never to outlive his usefulness."

## WILLIAM H. MURDOCK

William Henry Murdock was born April 9, 1861, at American Fork, Utah County, Utah, son of Joseph Stacy and Jane Sharp Murdock. The family moved to Heber City while he was a baby and he has since made it his home. He was married July 25, 1881, to Melissa Arletta Baum, who died in 1935. They were the parents of the following children: William Preston Murdock, who married Elizabeth Page; Della Marie Murdock; Nymphus Murdock, who died during infancy; Isaac Stacy Murdock, who married Gertrude Sexton; Gertrude Murdock, who died in infancy; Wallace Murdock, who married Della McMurray; and Ruby Murdock, who married Clarence Gott.

## JOHN H. MURDOCK



John Heber Murdock, son of Joseph Stacy and Eliza Clark Murdock, was born in Church Pastures, Davis County, April 28, 1854. He moved with his parents to American Fork, and in 1862 came to Wasatch County.

## BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS

## ALVA M. MURDOCK



Alva Moroni Murdock was born April 26, 1857, in Carson Valley, Nevada. His parents, Joseph Stacy Murdock and Elizabeth Hunter Murdock, had been sent to Carson Valley on a colonizing mission by Brigham Young in 1856.

In 1857, when the crops were ready to harvest, they were called back to Salt Lake by Brigham Young because of the invasion of Johnston's army, and were told to bring ammunition from California.

Alva's father had to sell his ranch and crops as they stood, ready to harvest, to some Texans on their way to the California goldfields for horses and wagons to make the return journey to Utah.

Ten years of hard pioneering followed for the Murdock family, first in American Fork and later in Heber City, where Alva's father, Joseph Stacy Murdock, was the first bishop and also first representative to the State Legislature from Wasatch County. There always was progress, though. A stone home was built in Heber; children were sent to school, and life became somewhat easier.

438

However, Joseph Murdock's organizational ability was too valuable to the Church to allow him to enjoy the comparative ease and security of the then well-established Heber City, and once more came the call to assist in colonizing, this time in southern Nevada in what is known as the Muddy Mission. So, in 1867, the Murdock family moved to the south, settling near the town of Moapa on the Muddy River.

The settlers had paid their taxes to Utah and to Arizona, only to find they were in Nevada, where more taxes were demanded. So, after a visit from Brigham Young, whom Alva says he remembers clearly, the project was abandoned for the time being and homes, orchards and 1,000 bushels of wheat were left behind.

The Murdock children were very happy to leave and when the father looked back as they came to a rise in the ground, he could see smoke rising. When asked about it, Alva admitted he had lighted the match, so they could not decide to turn back.

It was the trip to and from the Muddy Mission and the life there that is given credit for one of the outstanding habits of Alva's life. Because of the heat and mosquitoes, most of the travel was accomplished at night. Alva drove a yoke of oxen almost the entire way, although he was just a mere lad.

In 1870, when they reached Provo, the father, knowing that there were many mouths to feed, succeeded in securing the first government contract for carrying mail from Provo, by way of Heber and Kamas to Echo. Here the boys were put to work in relays with horses.

Interest in livestock became the deciding factor in Alva's destiny and was responsible for his entry into the Uintah Basin. He and Jim Clyde undertook to ride herd on a thousand head of cattle belonging to Heber residents, grazing them in the broad expanse of Strawberry Valley, now under the waters of Strawberry Reservoir. This herd was known as the Co-op herd and gave the name to Co-op Creek, which was a favorite camping spot for the herders.

In about 1875, when the feed in Strawberry Valley seemed inadequate for the cattle, the ranchers wanted them to graze. Alva and Jim Clyde decided to investigate

## HEBER BIOGRAPHIES

the basin, where the season was a little longer, and they rode along the Strawberry River and in Sam's and Slabb Canyons.

Feed in these canyons was then luxuriant, according to Alva, and the men thought that if they just owned these two canyons they would have everything any cattleman might desire. Here was born an ambition which years later was realized. Not content even with this, the two young men went on down into the basin, prospecting the entire region, much of which was held as an Indian reservation.

The final result was the leasing of the entire basin by Alva, Jim Clyde and a third man, Charles Carter, for \$1,000 a year, from the Indian agent, with the stipulation that they confine their herd to cattle, barring horses and sheep which might get mixed with stock belonging to the Indians. The following year their herd increased to 3,000 head of cattle.

When he was just a little over 20, Alva married Josephine Nicol, born January 25, 1859, in Salt Lake City, Utah, daughter of Thomas and Johanna Handberg Nicol.

Alva and his wife were married in Salt Lake City on June 24, 1877, but made their home in Heber, and he recalls he was denied much of the pleasure of the usual young groom starting his home. Just three weeks after his marriage he suddenly was faced with the situation of a man whom he had hired to take care of his cattle in the basin, demanding more money, and rather than pay the increase, Alva took over the horse, saddle and provisions he had provided for the herder and went to the basin himself. Since there was no one to relieve him, he stayed there with the cattle, eventually finding himself snowed in. It was nine months before he was able to return the next spring to his bride.

Time for the next years was divided between the basin and Heber, though Alva kept his family in Heber some time. At Heber his energy took him to such occupations as timbering and saw milling.

In the meantime, Alva was becoming a man of importance in Heber, where he was constantly interested in civic improvement. Among other responsible positions there was that of early school trustee, and his interest in education never diminished. Ven-

tures there included a livery stable business and a stage line to Park City. And when the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad built a branch line into Heber in 1899, it broadened the market for livestock and he took a great many selling trips East, besides supplying Park City markets with beef.

His family, too, was increasing. His first daughter, Hannah Elizabeth, was born October 30, 1878, and died a year later. Ida Josephine, now Mrs. Oscar A. Kirkham, was born July 10, 1880, followed by two other daughters, Dora and Vern.

It was in 1885, when Vern was still a little girl, that Alva decided to establish a trading post at Whiterocks and took his wife and three daughters there to live. While he operated the trading post, his wife ran a boarding house for officials of the government agency. This took much of Mrs. Murdock's time and sometimes for the entire day little Vern would be taken over by the Indians.

The keen understanding of the Indians by Joseph Stacy Murdock—his father—seemed to have been passed on to the son Alva, for he stood in good stead both in his trading with the Indians and in his many associations with them. The Indians learned to consider him a friend and adviser, and held him in so much respect that in all the years he has run cattle in the basin it has never been proven that any Indian ever killed or stole a Murdock animal. He spoke and understood their language and they regarded each other as friends.

Then came the move to the basin to establish his permanent home when it was thrown open to homesteaders in 1905. By this time he was well known and established, both in Heber and in the basin, among whites and Indians alike. He was a man of resources and accomplishments, able to see and grasp opportunities and with the resourcefulness to carry through his projects.

On the day before opening, Alva, by special permit, was allowed to come in to establish a store and other accommodations to provide for the expected settlers. He brought in two wagons and a big circus tent, which he set up beside an old cabin which he bought from an Indian, Segusie Jack. In the cabin he kept his merchandise

OVER



while the tent became a store, boarding house and community center for homesteaders who flocked in to select their lands. Later a huge bonfire was built near the tent, around which were gathered 52 men, and Dora, his daughter, the only woman on the town-site. Grant was the only boy on the campsite. In honor of the occasion the crowd voted to call the settlement Dora, the name it carried for some time or until the post office was established under the name Theodore.

Owning the home ranch had been a dream of the family for years, and when it was finally secured on the Strawberry River, Alva and Josephine made a trip to Salt Lake and had planned a trip to the coast to improve her health. This was not to be, however, and in three weeks she was dead. Her passing occurred February 3, 1913, at the home of her son-in-law, Oscar A. Kirkham.

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